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Numerical Features of the Book of Nahum

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Numerical Features of the Book of Nahum

A New Approach to its Compositional Structure

Please read the [General Introduction](#)

Various views on the structural design of the book of Nahum

The passages marked [blue](#) are displaced, resulting in non-existent texts devised by the commentator in question.

- F. HORST (*Die Zwölf Kleinen Propheten: Nahum bis Maleachi*, in: HAT 14, Tübingen, 1938, 153-166):
1.1.2-10; [1,11.14](#); [1,12-13](#); [2,1-3](#); [2,2.4-14](#); 3,1-7; 3,8-17; 3,18-19.
- K. ELLIGER (*Die Propheten Nahum, Habakuk, Zephania, Haggai, Sacharja, Maleachi*, in: ATD 25, 1951, 1-21):
1,1.2-9; 1,12-14; [2,1.3](#); [2,2.4-14](#); 3,1-7; 3,8-17; 3,18-19.
- R.F. VON UNGERN-STERNBERG und H. LAMPARTER, (*Die Propheten Habakuk, Zephania, Jona, Nahum*, in: Die Botschaft des Alten Testament, 23/IV, 1960; H. LAMPARTER, *Der Prophet Nahum*, pp. 203-238):
1,1.2-9; 3,1; [1,10.11.14](#); [1,12.13](#); [2,1-3](#); [2,2.4-14](#); 3,2-7; 3,8-17; 3,18-19.
- W. RUDOLPH (*Micha-Nahum-Habakuk-Zephania*, in: KAT XIII, 1975, 143-190): 1,1.2-10; 1,11-2,3; 2,3-14; 3,1-7; 3,18-19.
- A.S. VAN DER WOUDE (*Nahum*, in: POT, Nijkerk, 1978): 1,1.2-3a; 1,3b-6; 1,7-8; 1,9-11; 1,10-11; 1,12-13; 1,14; 2,1-3; 2,4-11; 2,12-13; 2,14; 3,1-4; 3,5,5-7; 3,8-11; 3,12-17; 3,18-19.
- R. SMITH (*Micah-Malachi*, in: WBC 32, 1984, 61-90):
1. 1,1.2-8; **2.** 1,9-2,3; **3.** 2,4-11; **4.** 2,12-14; **5.** 3,1-7; **6.** 3,8-13; **7.** 3,14-17; **8.** 3,18-19.
- K.J. CATHCART ("The Book of Nahum", in: The Anchor Bible Dictionary 4, 1992, 998-1000):
1,1.2-8; 1,9-2,3; 2,4-14; 3,1-7; 3,8-17; 3,18-19.
- D.A. DORSEY (*The Literary Structure of the Old Testament: A Commentary on Genesis-Malachi*, Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999, 301-305): **1.** 1,1.2-10; **2.** 1,11-2,1; **3.** 2,2-11; **4.** 2,12-14; **5.** 3,1-7; **6.** 3,8-13; **7.** 3,14-19.
- K. SPRONK (*Nahum*, in: HCOT, 1997, and *Nahum*, in: COT, 1999):
I: 1,1-11; **IIA:** 1,12-2,3; **IIB:** 2,4-8; **IIC:** 2,9-14; **IIIA:** 3,1-7; **IIIB:** 3,8-11; **IIIC:** 3,12-19.
- L. PERLITT (*Die Propheten Nahum, Habakuk, Zephania*, in: ATD 25,1, 2004, 1-40):
1,1.2-8; 1,9-2,1; 2,2-14; 3,1-7; 3,8-11; 3,12-15a; 3,15b-17; 3,18-19.
- H.-J. FABRY (*Nahum*, in: HThKAT, 2006): **1.** 1,1; **2.** 1,2-8; **3.** 1,9-2,1; **4.** 2,2-14; **5.** 3,1-7; **6.** 3,8-19.
- D.L. CHRISTENSEN (*Nahum*, in: AB 24, 2009):
I. 1,1; **II:** 1,2-10; **III:** 1,11-14; **IV:** 2,1-11; **V:** 2,12-14; **VI:** 3,1-7; **VII:** 3,8-13; **VIII:** 3,14-19.
- J.D. NOGALSKI (*The Book of the Twelve: Micah-Malachi*, in: Smyth & Helwys Bible Commentary 18a, Macon GA, 2011, 601-641): **I:** 1,1.2-8; 1,9-2,2; **II:** 2,4-14; 3,1-7; 3,8-11; 3,12-17; 3,18-19.

Outline based on extant layout markers, content, and numerical features

Section 1: 1,1-11 YHWH comes to avenge his enemies

- | | | |
|------------|--|-----------------|
| §1: 1,1-6 | The terrible nature of the theophany: [] | 6 vs; 73 words. |
| §2: 1,7-11 | Goodness to those who trust YHWH; vengeance to others: S | 5 vs; 45 words. |

Section 2: 1,12-2,14 Good tidings for Israel; bad news for the plunderers

- | | | |
|-------------|---|---|
| §1: 1,12-14 | YHWH will break the enemy's yoke off from Israel: P | 17 3 vs; 36 words.
11 vs; 128 words.
3 vs; 45 words. |
| §2: 2,1-11 | YHWH will restore the majesty of Israel: [] | |
| §3: 2,12-14 | The utter destruction of the lion's den: S | |

Section 3: 3,1-19 The unavoidable destruction of Nineveh

- | | | |
|-------------|--|-------------------|
| §1: 3,1-4 | Woe to the blood-stained city full of pillage: [] | 4 vs; 46 words. |
| §2: 3,5-7 | YHWH will treat the bloody city with contempt: [] | 3 vs; 35 words. |
| §3: 3,8-9 | Nineveh will go into exile like Thebes: [] | 2 vs; 22 words. |
| §4: 3,10-19 | Nineveh will fall; the Assyrians will be scattered: Col. | 10 vs; 128 words. |

Nahum 1-3	47 vs; 231 words.
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Observation 1 In broad outline my division of the text is similar to K. Spronk's tripartite layout. However, while he found **7** (sub)cantos, I came to **9** paragraphs on the basis of numerical considerations and with due regard for the Petuchah after 1,14, which demarcates the second divine speech.

Section 2, which contains the essential message of the book, is positioned in pride of place at the centre. It is finalized and sealed as a distinct literary unit by its **17 verses**.

For the other numerical features, see the table below.

Quantitative structural analysis of the book of Nahum

Vs	Texts	Words	Letters	יְהוָה	Sum words	S/P	Structural Design
Section 1		1,1-11					YHWH comes to take vengeance on his enemies
1	Na 1,1	6 Heading	25		6		§1 The terrible nature of the theophany The heading is integral within the prophecies, because the four lines in 1,1-3 end with an evident telestic formed by the letters Y and H and W and H + YHWH. See the Hebrew text below. 1,5-6 The earth is laid waste before YHWH: nobody can stand before his wrath: 26 words.
2	Na 1,2	14	54	1-3	20		
3	Na 1,3	15	59	4-5	35		
4	Na 1,4	12	52		47		
5	Na 1,5	12+	51		59		
6	Na 1,6	14/26	55		73/73	[]	
7	Na 1,7	8	28	6	81		§2 Goodness to those who trust; vengeance to others
8	Na 1,8	8	33		89		
9	Na 1,9	11	37	7	100		
10	Na 1,10	10	39		110		
11	Na 1,11	8	26	8	118/45	S	
11	Section 1	118	459	8x	118		
Section 2		1,12-2,14					Good tidings for Israel; bad news for plunderers
12	Na 1,12	14	48	9	132		§1 YHWH will break the enemy's yoke off from him
13	Na 1,13	6	29		138		
14	Na 1,14	16	61	10	154/36	P	
15	Na 2,1	21+	79		175		
16	Na 2,2	13/34 (2x17)	43		188		
17	Na 2,3	13+	51	11	201		
18	Na 2,4	13/26	59		214		§2 YHWH will restore the majesty of Israel The paragraph is in its entirety highlighted by its 34 + 26 + 68 = 128 words . 2,1-2 Keep your feasts and be prepared: 34 (2x17) w . 2,3-4 Israel's restoration; the battle begins: 26 words . 2,5-11 Description of the battle which ends in the total destruction of Nineveh: 68 (4x17) words .
19	Na 2,5	9	55		223		
20	Na 2,6	8	40		231		
21	Na 2,7	5	25		236		
22	Na 2,8	10 68 (4x17)	47		246		
23	Na 2,9	11	45		257		
24	Na 2,10	11	38		268		
25	Na 2,11	14	60		282/128	[]	
26	Na 2,12	15+	58		297		
27	Na 2,13	11/26	51		308		
28	Na 2,14	19	82	12	327/45	S	§3 The utter destruction of the lion's den 2,12-13 Description of the lion's den: 26 words.
17	Section 2	209	733	4x	209		
Section 3		3,1-19					The unavoidable destruction of Nineveh
29	Na 3,1	10	32		337		§1 Woe to the blood-stained city full of pillage 3,1-3 The battle scene: rumbling chariots, galloping horses, weapons and corpses: 34 (2x17) words . 46 is the numerical value of נָקָם, 'vengeance'.
30	Na 3,2	9 34 (2x17)	35		346		
31	Na 3,3	15	58		361		
32	Na 3,4	12	56		373/46	[]	
33	Na 3,5	14	64	13	387		§2 YHWH will treat the bloody city with contempt
34	Na 3,6	6	33		393		
35	Na 3,7	15	54		408/35	[]	
36	Na 3,8	13	49		421		§3 Nineveh will go into exile like Thebes
37	Na 3,9	9	38		430/22	[]	
38	Na 3,10	19	74		449		§4 Nineveh will fall; the Assyrians will be scattered 3,10-13 Nineveh will meet the same fate as the city of Thebes, which was doomed to be destroyed: 52 words. 3,15-17 The fire and the sword will devour Nineveh like the locust and his commanders will vanish into thin air like grasshoppers: 34 (2x17) words .
39	Na 3,11	10	35		459		
40	Na 3,12	11 52 (2x26)	41		470		
41	Na 3,13	12	50		482		
42	Na 3,14	12	48		494		
43	Na 3,15	11	47		505		
44	Na 3,16	7 34 (2x17)	31		512		
45	Na 3,17	16	71		528		
46	Na 3,18	12	47		540		
47	Na 3,19	18	59		558/128	Col.	
19	Section 3	231	922	1x	231		
47	Nahum 1-3	558	2252	13x	558		

Observation 2 In the heading the book is appropriately called ‘An oracle about Nineveh’, for it deals with YHWH’s vengeance on Nineveh, the city of Jonah’s mission. The name Nineveh appears 3 times, once in each of the three sections: 1,1 (in Section 1), 2,9 (in Section 2) and 3,7 (in Section 3).

From a logotechnical point of view, it is important to note that, excluding the heading, the book has **46** verses, which is not a matter of coincidence, for **46** represents the numerical value of the word נקם, ‘vengeance’: $14+19+13=46$. That this is the key-word par excellence expressing the gist of the book’s message is illustrated by the fact that נקם appears **3** times, all in the very first verse of the prophecy (1,2). This is numerically underscored by the fact that the first paragraph of Chapter 3 (3,1-4) has **46** words. The counterpart of YHWH’s vengeance is the *comfort* it brings to Israel. No wonder that the name of the prophet the author is writing about is Nahum, which means ‘Comforter’. See HALOT under נחום.

Observation 3 In the book of Nahum 22 of the 47 verses (47%) and 300 of the 558 words (54%) are highlighted by **17** and **26**.

Crucial passages highlighted by the divine name numbers 17 and 26

1. The earth is laid waste before YHWH: nobody can stand before his wrath (1,5-6): **26** words.
2. Keep your feasts and be prepared (2,1-2): **34 (2x17)** words.
3. Israel’s restoration; the battle begins (2,3-4): **26** words.
4. Description of the battle which ends in the total destruction of Nineveh (2,5-11): **68 (4x17)** words.
5. Description of the lion’s den (2,12-13): **26** words.
6. The battle scene: rumbling chariots, galloping horses, weapons and corpses (3,1-3): **34 (2x17)** words.
7. Nineveh will meet the same fate as Thebes, which was destroyed (3,10-13): **52 (2x26)** words.
8. Nineveh will be burned and his agents will vanish into thin air like grasshoppers (3,15-17): **34** words.

Words ascribed to God in the book of Nahum

It stands to reason that the **introductions** at the beginning of God’s words are not part of the divine speeches. On numerical considerations the same goes for the formula referring to God’s speaking, נאם יהוה צבאות (2,14 and 3,5), as in the books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Amos. In any case, such formulae stress the divine character of the words attributed to God.

Column 1: The numbering of the words ascribed to God (Ns.).

Column 2: The texts in which they are to be found (Text).

Column 3: The addressees (Addressee).

Column 4: The number of words in the introductions (**Introduction**).

Column 5: The number of words in the divine speeches (**DS**).

Column 6: The words in the formulae referring to God’s speaking (**Ref. For.**).

Column 7: The total number of words devoted to God’s speaking (Total).

Ns.	Text	Addressee/Subject	Introduction	DS	Ref. For.	Total
1	1,12-13	YHWH>Judah: Mercy!	3	17	0	20
2	1,14	YHWH>Judah: Idols!	3	13	0	16
3	2,14	YHWH>Nineveh: Ruin!	0	16	3	19
4	3,5-7	YHWH>Nineveh: Ruin!	0	32	3	35
			6	78 (3x26)	6	90

Observation 4 The four divine speeches have altogether **78 (3x26)** words (Column 5).

DS 1 stands out by **17** words (Columns 5).

For the other fascinating features of the book, see the Hebrew text below.

Nahum 1

1 מִשָּׂא נִינְוָה סֶפֶר חֲזוֹן נַחֻם הָאֱלֹקִשׁ׃ יְהוָה׃ The *final* letters of 1,1-3 form an evident telestic: **יהוה**, while the *initial* : **אל קנא ונקם** 1 יְהוָה׃ 2 **נקם** 2 יְהוָה ובעל חמה׃ 3 **נקם** 3 יְהוָה לְצָרָיו׃ 4 ונוטר הוא לאִיביו׃ 5 ויהוה אֵלֶּם׃ 6 ויגדל-כֹּחַ׃ 7 וינקם לא ינקם יְהוָה׃ letters of 1,2-3 form an evident acrostic: **אני**. The presumed alphabetic 'acrostic' may simply be a matter of chance, because it does not comply with the rules for a real acrostic.

- Altogether 7 characteristics of YHWH (cola) 2 וְעֵנָּן אֲבָק רִגְלָיו׃ 1 בְּסוּפָהּ וּבִשְׁעָרָהּ דִּרְכָּן׃ 4 גִּזְעָר בָּיִם וַיִּבְשְׁחוּ׃ 3 וְכָל-הַנְּהָרוֹת הִחֲרִיב׃ 4 אֲמָלַל בָּשָׂן וְכַרְמֶל׃ 5 וּפָרַח לְבָנוֹן אֲמָלַל׃ 6 הָרִים רָעִשׁוּ מִמָּנוֹ׃ 7 וְהַגְּבָעוֹת הִתְמַגְּגוּ׃ 8 וְהַתְּהַלּוֹת הָאֲרֶץ מִפָּנָיו׃ 9 וְהַתְּהַלּוֹת הָאֲרֶץ מִפָּנָיו׃ 10 וְהַתְּהַלּוֹת הָאֲרֶץ מִפָּנָיו׃ 10 Altogether 10 manifestations of the theophany (cola) Altogether 10 effects of the theophany (cola) 2 לְפָנָי זָעַמוּ מִי יַעֲמֹד׃ 1 וּמִי יִקּוּם בַּחֲרוֹן אַפָּי׃ 4 חֲמַתּוֹ נִתְּכָה כְּאֵשׁ׃ 3 וְהַצָּרִים נִתְּצוּ מִמָּנוֹ׃ 4 טוֹב יְהוָה׃ 5 לְמַעֲזוֹ בַּיּוֹם צָרָה׃ 6 וַיִּדַּע חֲסִי בּוֹ׃ 7 וּבִשְׁטָף עִבְרָ׃ 8 כָּלָה יַעֲשֶׂה מְקוֹמָהּ׃ 9 וְאִיבָיו יִרְדְּף-חֲשָׁד׃ 10 מִה־תִּחְשְׁבוּן אֶל-יְהוָה כָּלָה הוּא עֹשֶׂה לֹא-תִקְוִים פְּעָמִים צָרָה׃ 9 כִּי עַד-סִירִתִּים סִבְלִים וּכְסֻבָּאִם סְבוּאִים אֲכָלוּ כִּקֵּשׁ יִבֶּשׁ מָלֵא׃ 10 מִמֶּנּוּ יֵצֵא חֹשֶׁב עַל-יְהוָה רָעָה יַעֲזֵן בְּלִיעֵל׃ 11

1. 1-12-13 3+17=20

The initial letters of the four words form an acrostic: **Aššur**. 12 כָּהֵן אֱמֹר יְהוָה׃ אִם-שְׁלָמִים וְכֵן רָבִים וְכֵן נִזְוִי וְעֶבֶר׃ אֲשֶׁר לֹא אֲעַנְדָּ עוֹד׃ 13 וְעִתָּהּ אֲשַׁבֵּר מִטְהוֹ מַעֲלִיךְ וּמוֹסְרֵיךְ אֲנַתֵּק׃

2. 1-14 3+13=16

14 וְצִנָּה עָלֶיךָ יְהוָה׃ לֹא-יִזְרַע מִשְׁמַךְ עוֹד׃ מִבֵּית אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֲכָרִית פֶּסֶל וּמִסְכָּה׃ אֲשֶׁם קִבְּרָךְ כִּי קָלוֹת׃ 15

Nahum 2

- 1 תָּהֵן עַל-הַהָרִים רִגְלֵי מְבַשֵּׁר מִשְׁמִיעַ שְׁלוֹם׃ חֲנִי יְהוּדָה חֲנִיךְ שְׁלָמִי נִדְרִיךְ׃ כִּי לֹא יוֹסִיף עוֹד לְעֶבֶר-כֶּךְ בְּלִיעֵל כָּלָה נִכְרֵת׃ 2 עָלָה מִפִּיץ עַל-פָּנֶיךָ נִצְוֹר מִצָּרָה׃ צִפְתָּ-דֶּרֶךְ חֲזָק מִתְּנִים אֲמִץ כַּח מֵאֵד׃ 3 כִּי שָׁב יְהוָה אֶת-נֶאֱזֹן יַעֲקֹב כְּנֶאֱזֹן יִשְׂרָאֵל׃ כִּי בִקְקוֹם בִּקְקִים וּזְמִרֵיהֶם שִׁחֲתוּ׃ 4 מִגֶּן גִּבְרִיתוֹ מֵאֲדָם׃ 1 אֲנִשִּׁי-חֵיל מִתְלָעִים׃ 2 בְּאֵשׁ-פְּלָדוֹת הִרְכַּב בַּיּוֹם הַכִּינּוּ׃ 3 וְהַפְּרָשִׁים הִרְעִלוּ׃ 4 בְּחֻצוֹת יִתְהוּלְלוּ הִרְכַּב׃ 5 וְשִׁתְקִשְׁקוּן בְּרַחֲבוֹת׃ 6 מִרְאִיהֶן כְּלִפִּידִם׃ 7 כְּבָרְקִים יִרְצְצוּ׃ 8 וְזָכַר אֲדִירָיו׃ 9 וּכְשָׁלוּ בְּהִלִּיכְתָּם׃ 10 וּמִהָרֵי חוֹמָתָהּ׃ 11 וְהָכֵן הַסִּבְךָ׃ 12 Altogether 12 characteristics of the army (cola)

7 שְׁעָרֵי הַנְּהָרֹת נִפְתָּחוּ וְהַיִּכָּל נִמְוָג:

8 וְהָצַב גִּלְתָּהּ הַעֲלָתָהּ וְאַמְהָתֶיהָ מִנְּהֻגֹתָ
בְּקוֹל יוֹנִים מִתַּפְּפֹת עַל־לִבְבָהּ:

9 וַיִּנְגַּח כְּבָרֶכֶת־מַיִם מִיָּמִי הִיא וְהָמָּה נָסִים
עֲמָדוֹ עָמְדוּ וְאֵין מִפְּנֶה:

10 בָּזוּ כֶסֶף בָּזוּ זָהָב וְאֵין קָצָה לְתִכּוּנָהּ
בְּבֹד מִכָּל פְּלִי חֲמֻדָּה:

11 בּוֹקָה וּמְבוֹקָה וּמְבֻלָּקָה וְלֵב נָמַס וּפֶקֶד בְּרָפִים
וְחִלְחָלָה בְּכָל־מִתְנִים וּפָגַי כָּל־קִבְצוֹ פְּאֵרוֹר:

12 אֵיחָ מְעוֹן אֲרִיֹת וּמִרְעָה הִוא לִכְפָּרִים
אֲשֶׁר הִלָּךְ אֲרִיָּה לִבְיָא שֵׁם גֹּרֵר אֲרִיָּה וְאֵין מִחְרִיד:

13 אֲרִיָּה טָרַף בְּדֵי גְרוּתָיו וּמִחֻנֵּק לְלִבְאָתָיו
וַיִּמְלֹא־טָרֶף חֲרָיו וּמִעֲנָתָיו טָרָפָה:

3. 2,14 0+16+3=19

14 הִנְנִי אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָאִים יְהִנֵּה צְבָאוֹת

וְהַבְעֵרְתִּי בְעֵשֶׂן רֶכֶבָּהּ וּכְפִירֶיהָ תֹאכַל תִּרְבֵּי

וְהִכְרַתִּי מֵאֶרֶץ טָרָפָךָ וְלֹא־יִשְׁמַע עוֹד קוֹל מִלְּאֲכִכָּה: o

Nahum 3

1 הִי עִיר דְּמִים כְּלָה בַחַשׁ פֶּרֶק מְלֹאָה
לֹא יָמִישׁ טָרֶף:

2 קוֹל שׁוֹט וְקוֹל רַעַשׁ אוֹפֵן
וְסוֹס דֹּהֵר וּמִרְכָּבָה מִרְקָרָה:

3 פָּרָשׁ מַעֲלָה וְלַהֵב חֲרִיב וּבִרְקַח חֲנִית
וְרֵב חֲלָל וְכַבֵּד פֶּגֶר

וְאֵין קָצָה לַגִּוִּיהַּ וְכִשְׁלוֹ בְּגוֹיָתָם:

4 מֶרֶב זְנוּנֵי זוֹנָה טוֹבֵת חֵן בַּעֲלַת כְּשָׁפִים
הַמְכַרֶת גּוֹיִם בְּזִנְיוֹתֶיהָ וּמִשְׁפָּחוֹת בְּכִשְׁפֶּיהָ:

4. 3,5-7 0+32+3=35

5 הִנְנִי אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָאִים יְהִנֵּה צְבָאוֹת וְגִלְתִּי שׁוּלְיֶיךָ עַל־פָּנֶיךָ

וְהִרְאִיתִי גּוֹיִם מִעֲרֹךְ וּמִמְלָכוֹת קְלוּנָךְ:

6 וְהִשְׁלַכְתִּי עָלֶיךָ שִׁקְצִים וּנְבִלָתֶיךָ וְשִׁמְתִּיךָ כְּרָאִי:

7 וְהָיָה כָל־רֹאשׁ יִדְוָד מִפֶּךָ וְאָמַר שִׁדְּיָהּ נִינְוָה מִי יָנוּד לָהּ
מֵאֵין אֲבִיקָשׁ מִנְּחֻמִּים לָךְ:

8 הַתִּיטְבִּי מִנָּא אֲמוֹן הִישָׁבָה בִּי־אֲרִים מַיִם סָבִיב לָהּ אֲשֶׁר־תִּיל יָם מַיִם חוֹמָתָהּ:

9 כּוֹשׁ עֲצָמָהּ וּמִצָּרִים וְאֵין קָצָה
פָּוֶט וְלוֹבִים הָיוּ בְּעֹזְרֶתָךְ:

10 גַּם־הִיא לַגִּלָּהּ הִלָּכָה בְּשָׁבִי

גַּם עָלְיָהּ יִרְטָשׁוּ בְּרָאשׁ כָּל־חוּצוֹת

וְעַל־נִכְבְּדֶיהָ יִדְּו גּוֹרָל וְכָל־גְּדוּלָּיָהּ רִתְקוּ בּוֹקִים:

11 גַּם־אֶת־תִּשְׁבָּרֵי תִהִי נַעֲלָמָה

גַּם־אֶת־תִּבְקָשֵׁי מְעוֹז מֵאוֹיֵב:

12 כָּל־מִבְצָרֶיךָ תֵּאָנִים עִם־בְּפוּרִים

אִם־יָנוּעוּ וְנִפְלּוּ עַל־פִּי אוֹכַל:

- 13 הִנֵּה עַמֶּךָ נָשִׁים בְּקֶרֶךְ
לְאַיִלֶיךָ פָּתוּחַ נִפְתָּחוּ שַׁעֲרֵי אֶרֶץ אֲכֹלָה אֵשׁ בְּרִיתְךָ:
- 14 מִי מִצֹּר שְׁאֵב־לֶךְ חֲזָקִי מִבְּצֻרֶיךָ
בָּאִי בַטֹּיט וְרָמְסִי בַחֲמֹר תַּחֲזִיקִי מִלֶּבֶן:
- 15 שָׁם תֹּאכְלֶךָ אֵשׁ תִּכְרִיתְךָ חֶרֶב תֹּאכְלֶךָ כִּילֶךָ
הַתִּכְבֵּד כִּילֶךָ הַתִּכְבֵּדִי כְּאַרְבָּה:
- 16 הִרְבִּיתְךָ רִכְלֶיךָ מִכּוֹכְבֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם יֵלֶךְ פֶּשֶׁט וַיַּעַף:
- 17 מִנְּזִרֶיךָ כְּאַרְבָּה וְטַפְסֻרֶיךָ כְּגֹב גִּבִּי
תַּחֲזִיקִים בַּגְּדֹתַי בְּיוֹם קָרָה
שָׁמַשׁ זָרְחָה וְנוֹדָד וְלֹא־נֹדַע מְקוֹמוֹ אֵימָּה:
- 18 נָמוּ רַעִידָה מֶלֶךְ אֲשׁוּר וְשָׁכְנוּ אֲדִירֶיךָ
נִפְּשׁוּ עַמֶּךָ עַל־הַהָרִים וְאִין מִקְבָּץ:
- 19 אִין־כֶּתֶה לְשִׁבְרֶךָ נִחְלָה מִכְתָּךְ
כָּל־שִׁמְעֵי שִׁמְעֶךָ תִּקְעוּ כַף עֲלֶיךָ כִּי עַל־מִן לֹא־עֲבָרָה רָעַתְךָ תִּמִּיד: